

ISLAND MATTERS PRESENTED AT FEDERAL CAPITAL

A. C. Gehr Is Fighting the Kohala Ditch Bill and Hinting Strongly at Bribery.

(Special to the Advertiser.)
WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 23.—The fire claims bill is now a law, after one of the hardest and longest legislative campaigns that has been fought at the Capital in behalf of a Hawaiian measure. The end came quickly and more easily than any one had expected. That law and the coinage law are great achievements for one session of Congress. They probably constitute the greater portion of the legislation possible for Hawaii at this session. The Kohala Ditch bill, which has been pending before Congress for going on two years now, will probably become law, although Mr. A. C. Gehr is here fighting it strenuously and talking earnestly about a \$50,000 bank account of a prominent Hawaiian which Mr. Gehr apparently thinks has been dissipated in the ditch Senatorial campaign. If two or three Senators are disposed to fight the bill earnestly they might be able to defeat it, but they would be little wonder if the bill becomes law even before this letter reaches Honolulu.

The Ditch bill was reported out of the Senate Committee on the Pacific Islands and Porto Rico without discussion. Mr. Tuttle came down to Washington from New York to aid Mr. Gehr wherever possible. They have been remaining here to add to the gaiety of the contest.

FIRE CLAIMS BILL.

Mr. J. G. Pratt was much congratulated on his success in pressing the fire claims bill to its final passage. He has worked industriously on the measure, was unceasing in his efforts to see members of the House and explain the status of the measure to them. As I stated in my cablegram on the day of the passage of the bill he has been staying here briefly to consult with the Treasury Department officials about the issue of bonds to the extent of \$500,000 which the measure authorizes.

But the part that Mr. William Haywood played in securing the passage of the bill also secured for him many warm congratulations. He has done a vast amount of work on the measure in the last two or three years and has taken hold of it in lively fashion this winter, whenever he could see an opportunity to help along.

Representative Robinson, of Indiana, a Democrat, who had given to the fire claims bill more careful study than any other member of Congress and who was an ardent advocate of its passage, was absent when ex-Gov. Powers of Maine called it up on suspension day. The governor was very doubtful about the success of his attempt.

"We are going to try," said he to me a short while before the House was called to order that day, "but it is a forlorn hope. The Speaker has promised us a special rule for the measure, provided we can not pass it by unanimous consent or by a two-thirds vote under suspension of the rules, but the special rule affords little encouragement, because it must take its turn and there are now almost enough special rules ahead of us to occupy the time at this session of Congress."

"I am trying," added the governor as he sat at his desk and watched the clock, "to condense my speech, for I expect there are lots of other fellows who will want to talk and the time is very limited under such a proceeding."

The governor got away on his speech the moment Speaker Henderson recognized him and the bill had been recognized. He told how there were 6,000 claimants and recited the history of the claims in vivid language, mentioning the order given by Secretary of State John Hay Jan. 23, 1900, as issued to Gov. Dole. He emphasized the necessity of stopping the plague because of the passage to and fro of United States troops en route between San Francisco and the Philippines.

Representative Finley, of S. C., helped the governor along with some friendly questions, one of which was whether the territory had not expected at the time to have money of its own with which to pay all these claims.

Representative Maddox, of Ga., who is inclined to do considerable objecting in the House, began finally to propound questions but they did not prove of a hostile character. Gov. Powers finished in fine form and Representative Thayer, of Worcester, Mass., a Democrat, proceeded to speak on the bill. He is a member of the committee on territories and declared that he thought it would be a breach of good faith on the part of the government to refuse to pass the pending bill. He told how Hawaii had paid \$500,000 for the suppression of the plague and that this government ought not to complain at paying a share.

Representative Moon, of Tenn., who had demanded a second and was in charge of time for opposition to the bill, offered to yield time for any one who wished to oppose the measure but none volunteered. Mr. Sulzer of New York said for Mr. Robinson that the latter had been called away by a death in the family but that he was strongly in favor of the bill. Mr. Sulzer added on his own behalf that he was aware of the facts of the case and himself intended to vote for the bill.

Thereupon it passed without an opposing vote, exactly as it passed the Senate. Accordingly it was unnecessary to send the bill to a conference committee but, as soon as it had been engrossed and signed by the President pro tem of the Senate, Mr. Fry, and by

the Speaker of the House it was forwarded to President Roosevelt, who promptly signed it.

The House committee on territories, in taking up the fire claims bill, completed about all the Hawaiian legislation they have under contemplation for this session. Mr. Edgar Cayless' bill to modify the election laws was referred to a sub-committee consisting of Mr. Graham, of Penn., and Mr. Thayer, of Mass., but they were agreed that it should be shelved. Mr. Cayless and Mr. Wilcox were at the committee room two or three days ago to ask consideration of the bill but Mr. Thayer told them it could not hope for favorable consideration at this session.

EUSTIS IN WASHINGTON.

Mr. William Eustis, of Minneapolis, who was recently in Honolulu, inspecting sites for a new public building, has come to Washington and his official report is expected within a few days. It will be forwarded to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, printed and referred to the House Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds. It is hardly to be expected that Congress will at this session appropriate any money for a public building at Honolulu or Hilo. The House committee in preparing an omnibus bill but it is to cover projects already begun.

Mr. Eustis was at the Capitol today, and at the request of Secretary Shaw was given a hearing before the House Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds. He had numerous photographs and maps of Honolulu and Hilo along with him and these were exhibited to members of the committee. Secretary Shaw and members of the House committee expressed surprise that Mr. Eustis had been able to so successfully arrange for sites for public buildings in the two cities, and without cost to the Federal government. Mr. Eustis read his report to the committee and tomorrow expects to formally submit it to Secretary of the Treasury, who will transmit it to the Speaker of the House.

Mr. Eustis' report describes the postal facilities at Honolulu and the necessity of having a large space for handling mail and five separate delivery windows for the different nationalities. He says the post office is badly crowded at present. He cites the services of Postmaster Oat, and states that in ten years the postal business has increased tenfold. He also tells about the meeting of citizens in Honolulu and the choice of a committee at the head of which was Hon. L. A. Thurston to assist in selecting a site. He told about the quarantine at Honolulu, and the increasing receipts of the customs house, as a basis for the statement that he agrees thoroughly with the citizens of Honolulu that the customs house should stay where it is.

Mr. Eustis then says he thinks the Bishop site the best and most available one for a postoffice, and tells how Governor Dole has cabled his approval of it.

Taking up the situation at Hilo, Mr. Eustis comments upon the public spirit and loyalty of the residents there, and upon the probabilities of a great harbor there. He says that the present postoffice building is both inadequate and unsafe, and recommends a public building for all Federal offices upon the site selected by the citizens. He quotes Superintendent Cooper's opinion that the entire block is too large, but Mr. Eustis says he does not agree with that opinion. He adds that so much of the block as is not immediately used can be devoted to uses as a public park.

Mr. Eustis also devotes some space to the lighthouses of the islands, describes the "crude lights and recommends the transfer and maintenance thereof to the Federal government. In concluding his report, he says:

"In submitting this report, permit me to express my warm appreciation of the favors and kindnesses shown to me in the matters I had in hand, and the public spirit manifested by the citizens of Honolulu and Hilo. Earnest, enterprising citizens, full of faith and noble of principle and broad of thought make a progressive city. Such is the type of citizens responsible for the present, and on whom rests the future, of those cities of our tropical seas. It is but a young while since voluntarily they came under our flag, and yet I find the spirit of patriotism and love of union as keen and strong as though the Stars and Stripes had for a century waved over the islands. Since the days when the Friend sailed from New England with missionaries for the distant isles, planting there the faith and character of Plymouth Rock, their history has been eagerly watched and cherished by the American people."

"Now they are for all time one of us. May this happy union be to them in a material sense helpful and not hurtful."

The passage by the Senate today of a bill to construct a revenue cutter for the Hawaiian Islands probably presages the enactment of the bill into law at this session.

NO ADVERSE LEGISLATION.

It is known here that Mr. W. O. Smith, of Honolulu, is en route to Washington to make vigorous protest against some of the recommendations of Senator Mitchell's committee. Mr. Smith's visit will undoubtedly do much to emphasize the sentiment of the islands upon Senators and Members, but it is fair to say that there is not the

TREASURY ACTS THROUGH FIRST NATIONAL BANK

Hawaiian Coins Will Be Deposited There for Redemption—Bank Cables for Four Hundred Thousand Dollars in Silver Coin.

The following correspondence explains itself:

TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

Office of the Secretary,
Washington, January 20, 1903.

Division of Public Monies.

Cashier, First National Bank of Hawaii, Honolulu, Hawaii.

Sir: I enclose herewith for your information copy of the Act of Congress approved January 14, 1903, (Public No. 25), entitled an Act relating to the Hawaiian silver coinage and silver certificates.

In accordance with the provisions of said Act the Collectors of Customs and Internal Revenue at Honolulu have been instructed to receive such coins at the par of their face value, when the same are not abraded below the lawful standard of circulation, in payment of all dues to the Government, and also to receive them in exchange for any standard silver coins of the United States that are in their custody as Collectors. These officers will deposit coins thus received, together with other lawful money, to the credit of the Treasurer of the United States, on account of the several sources of receipt, with your Bank, and the Treasurer of the United States will deposit U. S. coins with your bank in such amounts as may be necessary to exchange all the Hawaiian coins that may be presented including those deposited in the regular course by the Collectors of Customs and Internal Revenue.

Full instructions will be given you by the Treasurer concerning the manner of accounting for the exchanges and the shipment of the Hawaiian coins to the U. S. Mint at San Francisco.

Respectfully,

(Signed) M. E. AILES

Assistant Secretary.

The First National Bank at once cabled to the Secretary of the Treasury for \$400,000 in silver with which to take up Hawaiian coins in the banks and Territorial Treasury.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 4.—The State Department has been advised that Sierra, the former President of Honduras, has relinquished his claim to the office at a meeting of the Council of Ministers. Bonilla has proclaimed himself President, and the threatened civil war is averted.

NEW YORK, N. Y., Feb. 5.—The price of refined sugar has been reduced ten points.

LONDON, Feb. 5.—The visit of the Sultan of Morocco to this city has been indefinitely postponed.

TANGIER, Morocco, Feb. 5.—Two thousands rebels were killed in a recent battle with the Government forces at Fez.

GUAYAQUIL, Ecuador, Feb. 5.—Vessels from San Francisco have been forbidden entrance to this port because of the plague.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 5.—Reports from Honduras state that a blockade of Amapala, the stronghold of former President Bonillas, has been ordered.

DOVER, Del., Feb. 5.—Addicks has withdrawn from the fight for the United States Senatorship. It is now probable that the deadlock will be broken.

PARIS, France, Feb. 5.—France has expressed its desire for a final settlement of the claims against Venezuela and termination of the British-German alliance.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 5.—Officials at the War Department state there is no special significance in the rush orders for the Pacific fleet to proceed to Southern waters.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 5.—President Roosevelt has been informed that the opponents of the Alaskan boundary treaty will not permit its ratification by the Senate.

BERLIN, Germany, Feb. 5.—Minister Bowen's methods in dealing with the Venezuelan question are causing great dissatisfaction here. It is claimed that Bowen is tricky. His authority may be questioned.

CARACAS, Venezuela, Feb. 5.—The continued blockade maintained by the Allies has increased the distress in Venezuela resulting from a shortage of food supplies. The deaths from hunger and disease have increased to an alarming extent.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 5.—Nothing has been heard from the Allies regarding the latest proposal that they be allowed three months' preference in dispensing Venezuelan revenues to be used in the payment of claims. The officials are hopeful that resort will be made to The Hague if all other measures fail. The blockade will be continued indefinitely unless payment of the claims is guaranteed. It has been officially denied that the Allies object to the presence of Venezuelan troops in the port of Guayra.

remotest prospect of any legislation at this session along the line of suspending the land laws or of colonizing the lepers. The importance of such matters to people on the islands undoubtedly emphasizes the supposed danger, but Hawaii has too many friends in Congress to permit of the passage of such legislation without a long and protracted struggle, which will be impossible at this session of Congress, when there is little time and every bit of that in demand for bills of general interest. By next session much of the Mitchell report will have been forgotten.

THE LAND SYSTEM.

Representative Mondell, of Wyoming, speaking today of the land system of Hawaii, said he believed it was in the main correct. "The Senatorial sub-committee," said Mr. Mondell, "came in contact with the same influence in Hawaii that I met with when I was there—some men who desire to secure some of the valuable lands of Hawaii for a song. I remember that during my visit there was lively strife to secure some lands to which the government had just built a macadamized road. Why, the public lands of Hawaii should be regarded as an asset, because much of those lands have been improved and a great portion of those lands are very valuable."

"Here on the mainland, where conditions are much different, there is even now much question as to the expediency of continuing our present public land laws, and the Secretary of the Interior has recently recommended a

change in those laws in three important particulars. It would be a very peculiar proceeding to extend laws, which are not altogether fitted to conditions here on the mainland, to the far off Territory of Hawaii, where the people are governing themselves in pretty good fashion. It is true some practices may have come down to them from the monarchy, which they cannot quickly rid themselves of, but give them time. They are doing very well, and will work out their own problems."

DR. WHITMAN CROSS.

Dr. Whitman Cross, of the Geological Survey, who was in Hawaii last summer, partly to study the formation of volcanoes and partly to observe the general aspects of the islands as to future geological work, is back in Washington. He tells me that he shall make no written report, but that he has talked considerably with Prof. Walcott, the director of the bureau, about the character of geological work out there. Dr. Cross says he gained much information about the volcanoes of the islands, which supplements the information he has gained in studying the same subject in the Rocky Mountain regions of Colorado. The canyons of the island of Kauai, to the northwest of Honolulu, Dr. Cross states, are quite as wonderful as those of the Rocky Mountains. Dr. Cross says there is a large field for the study of soils and for general geological work in the islands, but he fears there will be no large appropriation authorized for such an undertaking for the present.

EDWIN G. WALKER.

LOSS OF THIRTY. SIX LIVES IN AN OCEAN TRAGEDY

Alameda Sighted a Ship in Distress Which May Be the Overdue Florence.

(ASSOCIATED PRESS CABLEGRAM.)

LONDON, Feb. 4.—The bark Van Stabel, from Glasgow for San Francisco was wrecked today on Durabog reef. Thirty were drowned.

The French bark Van Stabel, Captain Quimper, left Glasgow on Jan. 17th for San Francisco with a cargo of about 2,500 tons of general merchandise. The Van Stabel was a vessel of 1777 tons register.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 4.—The Oceanic steamship Alameda arrived from Honolulu today. Enroute she sighted a sailing vessel in distress which may possibly have been the overdue Florence.

CHICAGO, Feb. 4.—A severe storm has reached the Mississippi valley and extended Eastward. Snow and sleet have brought down wires and impeded traffic. Two men were killed by the storm in this city.

VALLADOLID, Feb. 4.—Several thousand unemployed men paraded the streets today. They looted the bread wagons along the line of march and were charged by the gendarmes.

MILWAUKEE, Feb. 4.—Nine firemen were killed here today by inhaling the fumes of nitric acid during a fire in the business section.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4.—Senator Hanna has introduced a bill to pension ex-slaves.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4.—A reply from Berlin was handed to Minister Bowen tonight. It is believed to be favorable.

OKLAHOMA CITY, Feb. 4.—A fire which broke out here today has caused the loss of a quarter of a million dollars.

COLE YOUNGER THE FAMOUS BANDIT IS PARDONED OUT

ST. PAUL, Feb. 4.—"Cole" Younger, once a member of the Jesse James band of outlaws which infested the middle western states twenty-five years ago, who served time in the Stillwater penitentiary from 1876 to 1901, being released on parole at the latter date, has been pardoned by the State Pardoning Board.

Coleman Younger was one of three brothers, Robert, Coleman and James Younger, who between the years 1866 and 1873 gained great notoriety through their association with Jesse and Frank James. The band headed by Jesse James was charged with innumerable robberies of banks and railroad trains, in the execution of which many desperate encounters took place and a number of men were killed.

The members of the band had served through the Civil War, fighting on the side of the Confederacy with Quantrell and his guerillas. The scenes of most of their alleged post-bellum depredations were the State of Missouri and those adjacent thereto, but in September, 1876, the band entered Minnesota, traversing the State as far as the little town of Northfield, in Rice county.

There, on September 7th, after terrorizing the people on the streets, an attempt was made to loot the First National Bank. Cashier J. L. Heywood, who was in charge of the bank, made a plucky fight to preserve the funds of the institution from the robbers, and during the encounter was shot and killed, not, however, until he had wounded one or more of the raiders. The citizens of Northfield, quickly recovering from the panic into which the advent of the raiders had thrown them, armed themselves and started in pursuit of the desperadoes, who, baffled at the resistance they had encountered, had mounted their horses and were attempting to escape.

A week was spent in their desperate retreat, the pursuing posse of citizens now and again coming in contact with the bandits and exchanging shots with them. The raiders were handicapped in their retreat by the wounded, whom they were endeavoring to carry along with them, and finally, in a thick wood, the posse surrounded them. A battle ensued in which three of the members of the gang were killed, and the three Younger brothers were captured. Jesse James and the remainder of the outlaws succeeded in making good their escape.

NEW YORK, N. Y., Feb. 4.—A dispatch from Caracas states that a large force of revolutionists have assembled at the gates of the city for a vigorous attack. Preparations are being made to repel the invaders, all citizens being drafted for service.

Decisive action has been taken by the Allies in the last few days, the authorities of Guayra having been notified that the blockading fleet will shell the fort if Venezuelan soldiers appear within the city. These notifications are puzzling to the authorities.

Boatswain Confesses.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 29.—George Claire, boatswain on the steamer Ventura, confessed yesterday to United States Commissioner Hancock that he had received \$50 from the two stowaways who were seized by the immigration authorities on the arrival of the steamer. He made the statement at a hearing on the charge of illegally bringing aliens into this country. J. L. Cowell, first officer on the steamer, is also charged and is expected to testify this morning.

Claire stated that he met the men in an Austrian boarding-house in Auckland, and later asked Cowell if he would bring them over. The first officer readily consented, according to the boatswain's story, but demanded \$50 from Claire for the money and turned it over to Cowell. Claire declared that he himself kept no part of the money, and did wrong only at the order of his superior officer.

DOLE ON WRIGHT'S ESCAPE.

(Continued from page 1.)

and returned, it would have seriously crippled the appropriation for civil and criminal incidents. This appropriation is not calculated to meet the heavy expenses of extraditing criminals from distant states and foreign lands, or paying rewards for their capture, and there is no other fund from which such expenses can be lawfully paid. I recommend an appropriation for such purposes, to be expended subject to the approval of the Governor.

The ship Marion Chilcott made a fine passage of fifteen days from Honolulu to San Francisco arriving at the Coast port January 11. The bark A. C. Allen made even a better passage from Hilo to San Francisco going up in thirteen days, arriving in San Francisco on January 10.